



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
WORK STUDY SESSION
HORIZON COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOM 1
15444 N. 100TH STREET
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2009**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alspaugh, Vice Chair
James Duchene, Commissioner (arrived at 5:21 p.m.)
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

STAFF: Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager
Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. WORK STUDY SESSION

The Commission was asked to comment on Staff's proposal for a bond proposition in 2010. Ms. Cameron said projects were prioritized with input from Financial Services and City Management. Mr. Barnard said the proposed bond would be a traditional Capital Improvement Program (CIP) with a five-year window. The projects on the list should be achievable within that time frame. Larger projects may require a year or more of design, but most projects can quickly proceed into the construction phase. Financial Services asked that projects be ranked according to the following criteria:

- Critical or strongly recommended projects.
- Desirable projects.
- Projects that would be nice to have.

Mr. Barnard said the projects with the highest priority are those that would not cause additional impact on the operating budget or staffing, and address the City's aging infrastructure. Foremost among these is replacing the aquatics chemical system. Chair Frost inquired why McDowell Mountain Ranch was not built with such a system.

Mr. Barnard responded that when the project was being designed, that feature was deemed too expensive. At that time, the City was also handling chemicals in bulk. Since then, Water Resources has shifted their model to favor on-site generation and treatment. Commissioner King inquired whether the new system would save money. Mr. Barnard said that money would be saved because there would no longer be a need to store bulk chemicals, deal with storage and regulatory paperwork, or certify Staff for handling bulk chemicals. On-site generation also greatly mitigates safety concerns.

Mr. Barnard said the park restroom replacements are the next priority. An outside consultant evaluated all existing restroom facilities to determine their compliance with Federal ADA requirements. This project would largely focus on the older portions of Scottsdale, and calls for renovation of two restroom buildings per year for each of the five years. Commissioner Faramelli inquired whether Staff has sought Federal money to meet the ADA requirements. Mr. Barnard explained that Federal money comes with significant restrictions that can delay projects. The City feels the work could be done more effectively by funding it independently. If the community does not support the full bond amount, then the City could pursue those funds.

Mr. Barnard said continuing the renovation of the Indian Bend Wash lakes is another priority. The renovations would address bank erosion, improve water flow and the delivery system, and make the environment more appealing for migratory birds. The next priority is the continued effort to replace ballfield lighting. The fields are being renovated with Musco lighting systems that are guaranteed for 25 years, and require fewer fixtures and less energy. Lighting fields also extends the number of field hours that are available for the community.

Commissioner Duchene inquired whether the budget allows money to be set aside in a reserve fund to pay for routine renovations. Mr. Barnard responded that playground equipment and pool equipment replacements are funded every year. The remaining replacements are funded through bonding. Less than \$50 million is left in the current bond.

Mr. Barnard continued with the review of priorities. Park building replacements would include community centers, maintenance buildings, and other inhabited buildings that must meet ADA standards. The effort would focus on the older infrastructure in the southern portion of the city, with a goal of renovating two buildings a year. Chair Frost said the Chaparral Park building expansion and renovation should come first. Vice-Chair Alspaugh agreed that the facilities are in dire need of repair.

Commissioner Koczka said that while the list is worthy, nothing on it will excite voters. Chair Frost said once the Finance Committee has determined the amount of money that the City can bond for, a Citizen's Bond Committee will form. That committee will raise

money in the community and work to support the bond effort. The bond has to be programmed strategically to benefit the entire community, not just certain portions of it. Mr. Barnard added that further considerations are made as to whether the City can afford to build, operate, maintain and staff the projects.

Chair Frost proposed that the Commission hold a second study session prior to the next meeting to complete the review of the priority list. Commissioner Duchene felt 30 minutes would not be enough time, and suggested two hours instead.

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.